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Venezuela: Coup Leader Urges Followers To Lay Down Weapons

PA0402163392 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish
1558 GMT 4 Feb 92

[Message read by coup leader "Commander Chavez" in Caracas --
live]

[Text] First, I must say good morning to the Venezuelan people.

This Bolivarian message is addressed to the brave soldiers of the Paratroopers Regiment in Aragua and the Armored Brigade in Valencia.

Comrades, unfortunately for now, the goals that we established were not achieved in the capital. In other words, here in Caracas we did not attain power. You did it very well, but the time has come to prevent further bloodshed. The time has come to reflect.

New situations will emerge. The country must find the path to a better future.

Therefore, heed my words, heed Commander Chavez [not further identified] who has issued this message: Reflect and lay down your weapons because the goals we established nationwide are impossible to achieve. Comrades, hear this message of solidarity.

I thank you for your loyalty, bravery, and selflessness, and before the country and all of you I assume responsibility for this Bolivarian military movement. Thank you very much.

04 FEB 1638z kc

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